

CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims of the Application as indicated below:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for procuring ~~either~~ at least one good, ~~[[or]]~~ at least one service, or combinations thereof ~~at least one good and at least one service~~, for reconciling actual performance data with estimated data within a processor for a complex project ordered by a buyer and performed by a seller, the method comprising:

obtaining and storing in the processor the estimated data from any source relating to the complex project;

receiving and storing in the processor the actual performance data from the seller via a communication network;

using ~~electronic comparison circuitry~~ the processor to compare the actual performance data to the estimated data to determine any discrepancy between the actual performance data and the estimated data; and

sending an electronic notification of ~~any such~~ said discrepancy to at least one of the buyer and the seller, wherein notification of ~~any such~~ said discrepancy is provided to the seller, ~~whereby the seller can reconcile or account thereby providing an opportunity to the seller to justify or reconcile said~~ to the buyer for any such discrepancy.

2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for reconciling~~ as described in claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises an actual cost, in whole or in part, of ~~either~~ goods, ~~[[or]]~~ services, or combinations thereof ~~goods and services~~ provided by the seller in performance of the complex project.

3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for reconciling~~ as described in claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises an actual accounting, in whole or in part, of ~~either~~ goods, ~~[[or]]~~ services, or combinations thereof ~~goods and services~~ provided by the seller in performance of the complex project.

4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for reconciling~~ as described in claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises at least one measurement of at least one parameter defining at least one aspect of the complex project.

5-130. (Canceled).

131. (New) A method for reconciling actual performance data with estimated data in procuring at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof, for a complex project ordered by a buyer and performed by a seller, the method comprising the steps of:

converting at least one parameter of the complex project into a request for the at least one good, the at least one service, or combinations thereof;

obtaining estimated data relating to the at least one parameter of the complex project;

storing the estimated data in at least one medium that is electronically accessible to a processor;

receiving actual performance data relating to the at least one parameter of the complex project, from the seller via a communication network;

storing the actual performance data in the at least one medium that is electronically accessible to the processor;

using the processor to compare the actual performance data to the estimated data;

determining whether there is a discrepancy between the estimated data and the actual performance data and if there is a discrepancy then identifying the discrepancy; and

sending an electronic notification of any such discrepancy to at least one of the buyer and the seller, wherein notification of any such discrepancy is provided to the seller.